

**Governor's H.B. No. 7027 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR.'**

Members of the Appropriations Committee- thank you for letting me testify today before this committee today. My name is Scott Wilson. I am the President of the Connecticut Citizens Defense League. CCDL is a Non-Partisan 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment grassroots organization with approximately 26,000 members across the state.

We are here today to speak out on the pistol permit fee increases in the Governor Malloy Budget Proposal. This budget is specifically targeting gun owners and future applicants for handgun permits. CCDL and others certainly hope that the increased fees for Background Checks and Pistol Permits are not a part of the final budget. Over charging individuals who are citizens of this state is no way to make up for past over-spending habits. This state is already in a downward spiral, and outrageous proposals such as this only chase more people out of this state.

Can you imagine the uproar if this budget called for more than the quadrupling of driver's license or other fees?

Not only will many people not be able to afford to apply for a permit, many permit holders will simply not be able to renew.

The state will lose the existing revenue stream not only by these means, but people who cannot buy guns or ammunition. Fewer legal gun owners mean less tax revenue brought in ammunition sales.

Since Governor Malloy introduced his budget, I have heard from several hundred people who are members of our organization that will be deeply impacted if this is implemented.

I ask that you **OPPOSE** Section 48 (T1854) and Section 58 (T1938) of H.B. 7027 that would support the Governor's proposed pistol permit rate increase.

By appropriating the funds received from the rate increases you will be supporting the pistol permit and application fee increases.

With over 250,000 permit holders in this state, we ask that this committee carefully consider other alternatives to fix the budget. .

Thank you for your consideration,

Scott Wilson, CDDL President  
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